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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/743,745 Confirmation No. 9090  
Applicant : Shigekazu YASUOKA et al.  
Filed : December 24, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 1742  
Examiner : Jessee Randall Roe  
Dkt. No. : SNY-048  
Cust. No. : 20374

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)  
WITH A STATEMENT AS SPECIFIED IN 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

**Mail Stop Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 10, 2008

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. These documents have been cited in an office action in a corresponding Japanese application. One copy of each of the listed documents and a copy of the office action is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following filing of the above-captioned

application, but prior to issuance of a final official action or a Notice of Allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The undersigned also hereby states that the information contained in this information disclosure statement was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this statement.

Documents FA and FB are not in the English language. However, the concise explanation of the relevance of the documents under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 is believed to be satisfied by the submission of English language abstracts thereof.

Document FC is also not in the English language. However, the concise explanation of the relevance of the documents under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 is believed to be satisfied by the submission of a

U.S. Patent Appln. S.N. 10/743,745  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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corresponding English language publication thereof, U.S. Patent No.  
6,248,475.

No fee is required in connection with this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments: PTO/SB/08  
3 Documents  
Japanese Office Action  
U.S. Patent No. 6,248,475